

Application No. 10/705,849

86421-31

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action, the Applicant offers the following remarks.

Original claims 1 to 36 were examined. Claims 21 and 27 to 36 are currently cancelled and claims 1 to 20 and 22 to 26 were allowed in the Office Action.

**1. Objection Under 37 CFR 1.83(a)**

In response to the Examiner's objection with respect to the drawings, claims 27 and 33 are currently cancelled rendering this objection moot.

**2. Rejection Under Section 102**

The Office Action rejected claims 21 and 27 to 34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated. These claims are currently cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

**3. Allowable Subject Matter**

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for closely reviewing the claims and for indicating that claims 1 to 20 and 22 to 26 are allowed.

Application No. 10/705,849

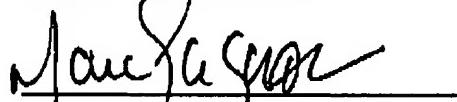
86421-31

**Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of pending claims 1 to 20 and 22 to 26 is patentable and in condition for allowance. Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's undersigned patent agent if any further amendments will expedite the prosecution of the present patent application or if the Examiner has any suggestions or questions concerning this application or the present response. If the claims are not believed to be in full condition for allowance, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP § 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP § 706.03 so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc Gagnon, Reg. No. 51,273  
Patent agent for the Applicant

Dated: July 28, 2005

**SMART & BIGGAR**  
1000 De La Gauchetière Street West, Suite 3300  
Montreal, Quebec  
H3B 4W5  
CANADA  
Tel.: (514) 954-1500  
Fax: (514) 954-1396